A Systems Approach for Evaluating Current and Emerging Army Open-Source Intelligence Tools

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Abstract: Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) is an emerging intelligence discipline with growing potential for the U.S. Army. Today's OSINT tools gather intelligence, enhance privacy and protect organizations. The Army Open Source Office (AOO), sponsored our team to develop a methodology to assess the current and emerging OSINT tools and technologies. Our team applies a systems decision process to develop a value model to improve OSINT operations. This paper outlines the systems approach, defines the problem, and creates a value model that serves two purposes. First, the model measures the performance of the Army's current toolkit to compare against other available tools. Secondly, this model evaluates emerging tools. Lastly, this model provides the decision maker with quantitative measures of performance to make better decisions on the allocation of resources.

Keywords: Open Source Intelligence (OSINT), Systems Decision Process, Value Modeling